

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 01134 221537Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/058 W

----- 100154

R 221300Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3558

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 1134

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJ: MRS GANDHI AVOIDS "EXTERNAL THREAT" THEME IN  
LONG AFP INTERVIEW

1. "THE DOG DIDN'T BARK." IT IS WORTHY OF NOTE THAT  
IN A LONG INTERVIEW WITH AFP, PRIOR TO FRENCH PM  
CHIRAC'S ARRIVAL IN DELHI JAN 23, PM GANDHI AT NO  
POINT REFERRED TO "EXTERNAL THREAT" OR FEAR OF  
"DESTABILIZATION" FROM OUTSIDE. THIS DESPITE SPENDING  
A GREAT DEAL OF TIME IN THE INTERVIEW IN EXPLAINING  
THE ORIGINS OF THE EMERGENCY AND HER DIFFICULTIES  
WITH THE "OPPOSITION." THERE WERE NO REFERENCES IN  
THE INTERVIEW TO THE US OTHER THAN A PASSING OBER-  
VATION THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM IN THE US DID  
NOT MEAN THERE WERE NO CONSTITUTIONAL OR OTHER  
DIFFICULTIES THERE (IN COMMENTING ON THE RELEVANCE  
OF A PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM IN INDIA).

2. IN CRITICISING THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INDIAN  
PARLIAMENT, MRS GANDHI CURIOUSLY HARKED BACK FOR THE  
FIRST TIME THAT WE CAN RECALL IN YEARS TO PRO-  
LONGED DEBATE ABOUT SVETLANA ALLEYUEVA'S DEFECTION  
THROUGH INDIA IN 1967, NOTING THAT THIS WAS A SUBJECT  
WORTH ONE DAY'S DEBATE WHICH PARLIAMENT HAD INSISTED  
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 01134 221537Z

ON SPENDING A MONTH DISCUSSING. WE ARE AT A LOSS

TO SPECULATE ON WHY SHE CHOSE TO REVIVE THIS SUBJECT  
WHICH WAS A MATTER OF GREAT EMBARRASSMENT TO MRS  
GANDHI PERSONALLY, TO INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND,  
OF COURSE, TO INDO-US RELATIONS AS WELL AT THE TIME,  
PARTICULARLY SINCE SHE WAS IN ERROR IN HER FACTS:  
THE DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT AT THE TIME LASTED ONLY  
THREE DAYS, NOT A MONTH.  
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL STABILITY, PRESS CONFERENCES, EMERGENCY PLANNING, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NEWDE01134  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760025-0630  
**From:** NEW DELHI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 69  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 21 JUL 2004  
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**Subject:** MRS GANDHI AVOIDS "EXTERNAL THREAT" THEME IN LONG AFP INTERVIEW  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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